


WHAT IS COURAGEOUS WRITING?
WHAT DO COURAGEOUS WRITERS DO?

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OUR NEXT MEETING IS
OCTOBER 3RD;
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER
CREATED BY SARAH HANSON

WNY Young Writers' *studio*

COURAGEOUS WRITING

A Note From Mrs. Stockman

As a teacher, I'm often asked what my favorite part of any learning experience is. Over the last twenty years, that answer has never changed. My favorite part of any learning experience is the time I get to spend talking one-on-one with the people I'm trying to help. It doesn't matter whether these people are students in my classroom, writers in our community, or teachers that I know. Sitting down to chat about what we are learning together and taking the time to get to know people well is the most rewarding part of being a teacher. It helps me help others better. It's also a place where we can I learn more too, if I'm careful to listen. Courageous teachers never stop learning. Neither do courageous writers!

One of the scariest things about becoming a writer is that we often have to admit what we don't know. This is hard because many of us assume that others know so much more. This simply isn't true!

During conferences this summer, Eliza helped me learn something very important. She told me that she realized that her writing ideas weren't as COURAGEOUS as she'd like them to be. She said that she'd like to work on this during the year, because she has a hunch that it will make her writing more engaging for readers. This was a tremendous discovery, and because she shared it with me, I'm able to create writing lessons and develop strategies that might be helpful not only to her....but to other teachers and writers as well.

It takes courage to set goals like these! It also takes courage to share them. But when we do, so many other people benefit from our efforts! Thank you for helping me become a better teacher and writer, Eliza!

Our October session is all about having courage, developing great ideas, and the early phases of the writing process. We can't wait to see you!



SUBMIT YOUR WORK

If you would like to see your work included in the next issue of the WNY Young Writers' Studio newsletter, please submit your piece via email to stockmanangela@gmail.com. We print all forms of writing, but space is limited. Please feel free to bring pieces to Studio for peer review and editing help! The deadline for inclusion in the November newsletter is October 15th.

I'm looking forward to publishing your work right here in our community newsletter!!

See You in October!

Next Session:

**Saturday
October 3rd**

**Grades 2-5:
9-11am**

**Grades 6-12:
12-2pm**

Session Focus:

Prewriting and Drafting
Shaping a Great Idea
Having Courage as a Writer

BOOK SWAP!

Inspired by Mrs. Smith

Bring a book to add to
our collection and take
one home! These are
permanent trades!

Number One Way to Hurt a Writer:
Pressure Them.

Good writing takes time.

It is something that is developed, not
something that is submitted on demand.

The purpose of our Studio is not to give
students pre-fabricated assignments,
writer's tools, or processes.

We are eager to know each writer
personally and to help all fellows learn
more about themselves as so that our
entire community can support them. They
will learn to help others grow as well.

This sort of work cannot be rushed.

We celebrate works-in-progress and
writers in process at Studio.

This is how our fellows thrive.

Studio writers are never pressured to
perform faster, better, or perfectly.
We're grateful for your support!

BEING A COURAGEOUS WRITER MEANS

Writing about things you feel
passionate about

Using writing techniques that
are challenging for you

Using your talent to help
others

Pushing yourself to write the
best that you can

Letting yourself be heard

Being open to feedback and
eager to make improvements
on your work

Speaking up for what is right,
even if it makes someone
uncomfortable

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Today is a Beautiful Day

By Lindsay Marie Naab

Today is a beautiful day;
tomorrow will be like no other.
Appreciate your friends
like a sister or a brother.
We will never know what tomorrow holds.
It could be rusty. It could be gold.
But I know that we only have one.
So take advantage of life! Have some fun.
Take a trip on a roller coaster ride—
adrenaline rush in a wink of time.
Smile big, love, and be sincere.
Take life by the wheel; don't forget to steer.
Take a chance. Spin around.
Go right up. Now look down!
Skydive a million feet in the air.
Don't worry about anything.
We all have a good scare.
Cause when life gives you lemons
make lemon cake.
Now slow down.
Take a nice break.
Watch some TV.
Play a video game.
Everyone needs a break.
It doesn't mean you're lame.
Because today is a beautiful day.
Tomorrow will be like no other.
Everyone needs awesome friends,
Like a sister or a brother.

An Ode to Insects

By Abby Clements

*O, the bright and looping butterflies,
O, the lazy, golden bees.
O, the red, black-spotted ladybugs
Buzzing through the swaying trees.*

*Dancing over fields of clover,
Flitting over rainbow lawns.
All these guardians of the flowers
Flying in the golden dawn.*

Courage

By Matt, Andrew, Thomas, and Zach

Courage is being able to wiggle
Courage is eating shark from the sea
Courage is muscle muscle muscle
The courageous are able to do anything!
Courage is smelling fear
Courage is bravery



CHECK OUT SOME OF THESE COURAGEOUS BOOKS WRITTEN BY COURAGEOUR WRITERS

Recommended by Studio Fellows

Picture Books

Love You Forever by Robert Munsch
Sheila Rae, The Brave by Kevin Henkes
The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles
The Princess Knight by Cornelia Funke

Courage by Bernard Waber
Stuart's Cape by Sara Pennypacker
The Recess Queen by Alexis O'Neill
The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch

Chapter Books for Children

Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
Daniel's Story by Carol Matas
Maniac Magee and *Wringer* by Jerry Spinelli

Love That Dog or Hate That Cat by Sharon Creech
The Tale of Despereaux by Kate DiCamillo
The Harry Potter Series by J.K. Rowling

Books for Readers Twelve and Older

Cut by Patricia McKissack*
Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson*
Perfect, Lush, or Bounce by Natasha Friend*
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
Night by Elie Wiesel
The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros*

Bird by Bird by Anne Lamott
Writing Toward Home by Georgia Heard
Writing Down the Bones by Natalie Goldberg*
Breaking Into the Open by Elizabeth Berg
The Right to Write by Julia Cameron*
An Old Friend From Far Away Natalie Goldberg*

*These books include adult themes and issues

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